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Sir:

**PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(E)**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), counsel states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement dated October 7, 2003, was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said IDS.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 7, 2003  
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